2000-2001

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF MUSIC
2000-2001 Season

Choral Music on Campus Series

ARTISTS IN SONG II
MACMILLAN SINGERS

Doreen Rao, conductor

Saturday, March 3, 2001
8 p.m.
Victoria University Chapel

FACULTY *of* MUSIC
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Where Great Music Meets Great Minds

Choral Music on Campus Series

Presents

MacMillan Singers

Doreen Rao, conductor

I

Stephen Hatfield
(b. 1956)
Missa Brevis
Sarah Omerod, soprano

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)
Komm, Jesu, komm (BVW 229)
Shawn Grenke, organ

Imant Raminsh
(b. 1943)
I Will Sing Unto the Lord (Psalm 104)
Grant Wenaus, piano

Intermission

II

R. Murray Schafer
(b. 1933)
Magic Songs
Chant to bring back the wolf
Chant for the spirits of hunted animals
Chant to make the magic work

Gary Kulesha
(b. 1954)
Shaman Songs
Orpingalik Speaks of Singing
Invocation
Incantation
Uvanuk's Song
Ancient Song
Karen Graves, violin; Tristan Gurney, violin;
Darryl Strain, viola; Mary Katherine Finch, cello;

III

Stephen Leek
(b. 1959)
Ngana (from *Songs of Passage*)

Frode Fjellheim
(b. 1959)
Eatnemen Vuelie, Fairest Lord Jesus

Nick Page
(b. 1949)
Love the Earth
Grant Wenaus, piano; Leah Eddy, flute;
Ian Gibson, Brian Lahaie, percussion

Programme Notes & Texts

Missa Brevis
Stephen Hatfield

This Missa Brevis incorporates folk melodies from different countries in each movement. The Kyrie, from Scotland, is based on the Gaelic burial song, Cro Chinn Tsaile. The Gloria, from Norway, bases its opening statement on an ancient call used to summon cattle, while the main body of the movement draws on a potpourri of folk songs, some of them dating from Medieval times. The Agnus Dei, from the Isongo people of Central Africa is originally a brisk, yodeling song with hand clapping, surprisingly identified as a lullaby.

Komm, Jesu, komm (BWV 229)
Johann Sebastian Bach
Choir I and II, 8 pt.

Come, Jesu, come, my body is weary,
My strength ebbs, yearns for Thy peace;
The stony path is too hard for me!
Come, I will surrender myself to Thee,
Thou art the way, the truth and the life.

Choir I and II 4 pt. (Aria)

So now I entrust myself into Thy hands
And can only say: Be gone, world, good-night! My lifetime my be rushing towards its end, yet my spirit has found a happy home. It should hover around its creator, for Jesus is and shall remain the true path for living.

Imant Raminsh
I Will Sing Unto the Lord
Text from Psalm 104

Bless the Lord, O my soul, thou art very great,
O God, thou art very great.
O Lord, thou art clothed with honour and majesty.
Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all:
The earth is full of thy riches.
So is this great and wide sea which teems with innumerable things, both great and small.
There go the ships: there, the leviathan, whom thou hast made to play there-in.
These wait all upon thee; Thou sendest forth thy spirit, thou renewest the face of the earth.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my Lord while I have being.
My meditation shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord,
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my Lord while I have being.
Amen!

Shaman Songs
Gary Kulesha
Orpingalik Speaks of Singing

How many songs I have I can not tell you.
All my being is a song I sing as I draw breath.
How many songs I have I can not keep count
Anymore than I can keep count of the breaths I take.
There are so many times when joy or sorrow are felt in such a way
That the need to sing comes with them.
There are so many times when I feel joy or sorrow
And I must sing!
All my being is a song.
I must sing as I draw breath.

Invocation

Spirit of air come down
Your Shaman calls.
I rise among spirits
I rise with the phantoms of the dead.
All around me are bones bleach'd by Great Sila
Bleach'd by the air.
But the spirit and the day flow through my limbs
And do not turn them to bones.
Great child master of air
Great infant spirit your Shaman calls.

Incantation
Ah, my great companion
Great guardian spirit
Our fine incantation our fine cries rise up to thee.
My great companion who cries out within me
Great spirit.

Uvavnuk Is Struck by a Meteor and Becomes a Shaman
(string quartet)

Uvavnuk's Song
I am adrift on the great sea.
It moves me like the weed in the great river.
The earth and wind and the great sea move me.
They have carried me away and move my spirit with joy!
Ancient Song
Let me go and watch it vanishing
Vanish.

Ngana
Stephen Leek
Ngana (From Songs of Passage) by Australian composer Stephen Leek strikingly captures the driving energies, rhythms and vivid colors of the island seascape that is to be found around the northeastern tip of Australia. Ngana uses as its source an indigenous Australian text which calls to the shark (Ngana) and the fish (Mangana) welcoming (Yah) them to the translucent blue waters (Lina) around the reef.

Two Sámi People
Frode Fjellheim
The Sámi tradition comes from Scandinavia's Northern most region. Yoiking is practiced as one of Europe's oldest musical forms and stems from the traditional Sámi and is a wholly unique style. This music can be hypnotic, exciting, vital and powerful. To many it also has a sacred, religious or supernatural dimension. If one had to classify this music, the terms ambient, trance and techno would come to mind.

Thank you to our rehearsal pianists, Dr. George Brough and Claire Preston.

Meet the Artists

Doreen Rao holds the University of Toronto Elmer Iseler Chair in Conducting. As Director of Choral Programs, Dr. Rao conducts the MacMillan Singers, the University Women's Chorus, and the newly formed Master Chorale. A member of both the Faculty of Music Performance and Music Education Divisions, Dr. Rao also teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in conducting and choral music education. As part of her ten year choral outreach programs in the schools, Dr. Rao directed and advised an extensive professional development and research program in partnership with the North York, Toronto, and Etobicoke regions.

Educated in the United States, Dr. Rao was awarded both the M.Mus. and Ph.D. from Northwestern University. During her long association with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, she served as assistant conductor of the Chicago Symphony Chorus under the direction of Margaret Hillis, her teacher and mentor. As Music Director and Conductor of the celebrated Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus, Dr. Rao prepared her young singers for concerts, tours, and recorded performances that won four Grammy Awards and a Grand Prix du Disque under Sir Georg Solti, Margaret Hillis, and James Levine. Her choirs performed regularly with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Leonard Slatkin and as invited guests of the Oregon Bach Festival for performances with Helmuth Rilling.

Dr. Rao's innovative *Sing with the Symphony* school concerts were introduced by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra during their 1994-95 season to actively involve student and family audiences in listening as performers. In past seasons Dr. Rao conducted similar programs with the Regina Symphony and North York Symphony Orchestras on their regular subscription series. For Newfoundland's first International Festival 500, Dr. Rao conducted the world premiere of Gary Kulesha's *Crossings* with the Windsor and Newfoundland Symphony Orchestras and festival choirs. Drawing on her performance experience, teaching expertise, and research efforts, Dr. Rao's "Choral Music Experience" concept of music performance as music education serves as the theoretical foundation of her influential publications including her choral textbooks and her extensive choral music series which she advises and edits for Boosey & Hawkes.

Dedicated to the art of choral singing and the future of music education, Doreen Rao founded the CME Institute for Choral Teacher Education, an international professional development and research center for teachers, conductors, scholars, and composers. In a national tribute presented to her by the American Choral Directors Association, the eminent American conductor Robert Shaw wrote, "The world of choral music owes her special thanks. She is preparing our future". Canadian Journalist Bronwyn Drainie described Doreen Rao as "a brilliant artist and teacher. . . whose methods and materials could re-energize the art of singing in our schools."

Dr. Rao is the recipient of numerous honors and awards including the 1997 Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia National Citation for her significant and lasting contribution to the cause of American music. She has been honored by the YWCA as Outstanding Leader in the Arts and Culture, by her colleagues of the American Choral Directors Association for her commitment to choral excellence.

Founded by Doreen Rao in 1994, the University of Toronto **MacMillan Singers** were named to celebrate the legacy of Sir Ernest MacMillan. Representing the Faculty of Music, the young ensemble has performed and recorded a wide range of culturally diverse and distinctive repertoire with a demonstrated commitment to 20th century choral music. The MacMillan Singers "On-Campus" concerts are frequently broadcast on "CJRT Concert", 91.1 FM, and most recently as part of the Voices 2000 concert broadcast on CBC's *Choral Concert* and *Two New Hours*. The Singers have appeared in choral workshops, concert, and masterclasses in Canada and the United States.

MacMillan Singers

Soprano I
Heather Eyerly
Sarah Ormerod
Sarah Whelan
Katherine Whyte

Soprano II
Allison Bent
Meghan Roberts
Jessica Robinson

Alto I
Andrea Kryski
Paola Scalisi
Deborah Seabrook
Vida Mae Spidle
Wendy Visser

Alto II
Erin Morgan
Tara Nadal
Kristina Nojd
Jillian Yemen
Jordann Zaza

Tenor I
Stephen Erickson
Ryan Harper
Michael McBride
Jordan Travis

Tenor II
Kevin Bieman
Ron Cheung
Will Stokes
William Wolochuk

Bass I
James Baldwin
Philip Carmichael
Casey Churko
Chad Clark
Brandon Cunningham
Wayne Gwillim
Daniel Hammill
Matt Kett
Paul Newman

Bass II
Michael Adair
Trevor Bowes
Paul Mayer
David McCallum
Peter McGillivray+

+ Choir Manager

FACULTY of MUSIC
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
2000-2001

Where Great Music Meets Great Minds

Choral Music on Campus Series

GRAND & GLORIOUS CHORUSES
University of Toronto Choirs;
Doreen Rao, conductor

Friday, March 30, 2001, 8 pm
MacMillan Theatre

Choral favourites from Handel to Honegger

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As of January 31, 2001

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GREAT FRIENDS - GREAT MINDS - GREAT MUSIC

The Faculty of Music Campaign continues to grow in momentum and spirit. Since May 1, 1995, numerous academic priorities funded through the Campaign have enhanced all aspects of the education we provide to our talented students. We would like to thank all who have made significant contributions to our campaign – generous donors, tireless volunteers and longtime supporters. For more information on the Campaign for the Faculty of Music, please call 416-946-3145.

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As of January 31, 2001

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A chord is struck, but never fades, sustained forever.

Dr. Arthur Plettner
1904-1999

Arthur Plettner graduated from the Faculty of Music many years ago and now, because of his generosity, is helping students that have come after him. When Dr. Plettner made a note of remembering the Faculty of Music in his Will, he created an endowment fund that will provide enduring financial support to gifted graduate and undergraduate students in financial need wishing to study at the Faculty of Music.
Thank you Dr. Plettner.

For more information on Planned Giving please contact the Development Office of the Faculty of Music by calling 416-946-3145.

FACULTY *of* MUSIC
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
2000-2001

Where Great Music Meets Great Minds

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Music of Christos Hatzis

Friday, March 23, 8 p.m.
Walter Hall

featuring...
Patrick Gallois, flute; Lorna MacDonald, soprano; The Gryphon Trio; Peter Stoll, clarinet; Scott St. John, viola; Shauna Rolston, cello; William Aide, piano; Clare Scholtz, oboe; Nadina Jackson, bassoon; Michael Jarvis, harpsichord; Gary Kulesha, conductor

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